

## Cesto de Ouro



On October 24, 2010, the U.S. Embassy in Maputo and ProSport conducted the "Cesto de Ouro" basketball clinic in Tete Province. 50 young Mozambican boys and girls participated in the basketball clinics as well as educational sessions on health living and HIV/AIDS awareness and prevention. The participants ages 13 to 16 were selected from the communities of Moatize and Cateme in Tete Province and had the unique opportunity to play with and learn basketball and life skills from two professional American basketball players, Kim Adams and Cameron Echols, as well as renowned coach, Professor Nazir Salé.

The intent of the program was to promote not just basketball as a sport, but also additional education and support to both the players and those in attendance at the clinics. Basic information on HIV/AIDS prevention was provided to players, school director, coaches, and other members of the audience at the end of each clinic. ProSport also offered the young players with food pack big enough to share at home with family members. By the end of "Cesto de Ouro" program, youth from the communities of Moatize and Cateme, had learned about how to avoid risky behaviors and where to get more information and support to keep themselves and others free from HIV.



TVM filmed the event as well as conducted interviews with the participants, Embassy Representative and the two VIP basketball players. The Professional Basketball Players as well provided a prevention message to the youth, emphasizing on the importance of education, discipline, teamwork and keeping healthy. In addition, each player received a uniform, an autographed poster with a picture of our two American Athletes, which included an HIV prevention message, and a certificate of participation signed by the Embassy. Information sheet on the history of Basketball and Magic Johnson activism against HIV/AIDS, American flags bracelet, U.S. team cards, and other cultural items were distributed to thank the community for their participation in this basketball program, and to encourage them in their efforts to keep their community, especially their youth, healthy and involved.

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